

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Christine Boschen)
MEETING DATE: January 23, 2007

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: **City of American Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant, American Canyon, Napa County** - Hearing to Consider Mandatory Minimum Penalty for Discharge of Partially Treated Wastewater to Waters of the State

CHRONOLOGY: NPDES Permit first issued January 2000; no previous enforcement.

DISCUSSION: The City violated its NPDES permit's effluent limits 28 times from October 2003 to June 2006. We issued a complaint to the City assessing \$66,000 in mandatory minimum penalties.

Though the total number of violations is high, the minimum penalty amount is warranted for the City. The violations were caused not by one problem but by several unrelated problems. In each case, the City took immediate, proactive, and reasonable measures to investigate its cause and implemented corrective measures. For example, the City discovered that its copper violations were caused by rust in a tank at the plant. The City replaced the tank.

The City has signed a waiver to a hearing (see Appendix B), and it has submitted a concept proposal (see Appendix C) for two supplemental environmental projects, which are currently being reviewed by staff. The proposal includes: a) a project to improve the quality of water draining to an important wetland habitat area near American Canyon; and b) support of an environmental educational program by the Friends of the Napa River, the Audubon Society, and the City.

RECOMMENDATION: No action is necessary

File Number: 2139.3021 (CEB)

Appendices: A. Complaint No. R2-2006-0080
B. Signed Waiver
C. SEP Concept Proposal

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C